Amdt. Dated November 25, 2003

Reply to Office Action of September 25, 2003

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 3724

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present

application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action, and

amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the subject matter which Applicant

regards as the invention.

Initially, Applicant submits that the Office Action does not address the current status of

claim 7, which was previously added by amendment. It appears that claim 7 was not considered

by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a

supplemental action addressing claim 7.

Turning now to the rejection, claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over

Bugbee in view of Corona or Cassada. For the following reasons, the rejection is respectfully

traversed.

The Examiner concludes that Bugbee fails to teach a magnet as required by the claims.

The Examiner has taken Official notice that "it is old and well known in the art to use one or more

magnets to hold a metallic component in a desired position, wherein such magnets provide

well known benefits including easy attachment/unattachment of a component thereto." The

Corona patent and the Cassada patent are cited as examples in support of such Official notice.

Applicant respectfully submits that the record lacks a clear showing that one of ordinary

skill in the related art would find a motivation or suggestion in the prior art to modify the

teachings of Bugbee to include a magnet as presently claimed. Neither Bugbee, Corona nor

Cassada provides the necessary suggestion or motivation.

Bugbee does not teach or suggest the use of a magnet for holding its locking pin (K).

Further, Corona does not teach the use of a locking pin and does not suggest the use of its magnet

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to hold such a pin. The magnet (96) in Corona is used only to guide a tool bit (16) into position

below a bore (66) before it is manually slide into the bore. Also, the teachings of Cassada relate

to electronic combination locks, not to power tools. One engaging in the design of a power tool

would not look to the art of combination locks when seeking alternative design features.

Moreover, it is clear that the magnets in Corona and Cassada are each used in a way that

is fundamentally different from the means for holding the pin in taught by Bugbee. This is

demonstrated by the fact that the means for holding the pin (K) in Bugbee (i.e. the step (i) and

the lug (L) could not be used in Corona and Cassada as a substitute for the magnets.

For all of the above reasons, there is insufficient basis in the record to form a prima facie

case of obviousness, as required to support a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Further, regarding claims 1 and 6, neither Bugbee, Corona, Cassada, nor any combination

thereof, teaches or suggests a means for "retaining a locking pin in its locking position," as

required. Bugbee teaches only a means for holding the pin (K) in an unlocked position, consisting

of a lug (L) and a step (i). Bugbee does not teach any means for holding the locking pin (K) in

its locking position. Specifically, when the pin (K) of Bugbee is in the locking position the

pin (K) remains free to slide and thus, inverting the tool could cause the pin (K) to inadvertently

slide back into the unlocked position. Claim 1 requires that the magnet retains the locking pin in

its locking position (claim 6 has a similar requirement). There is no prior art reference of record

that teaches or suggests that Bugbee should be modified to include a means for holding the

locking pin (K) in its unlocked position, as claimed. The magnet (46) in Cassada holds away from

locking engagement with a recess/hole (24). As previously mentioned, the magnet (96) of Corona

guides and holds a tool bit, not hold a locking pin. Thus, every limitation of the claims is not

taught or suggested by the prior art of record or any combination thereof.

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Further, unlike the portable tool of the presently claimed invention which is likely to be

inverted or jarred during the changing of the cutting tool, the drawings of Bugbee appear to

depict a bench-style tool which would be bolted to a stationary work surface. Therefore, there

is no risk of accidental inversion while changing the saw-plate (E), making the feature of the

present invention unnecessary. This further supports the argument set forth above regarding the

lack of motivation to make the proposed modification.

Thus, even if Bugbee were modified based on the teachings of the prior art of record,

including the Official notice taken by the Examiner, every limitation of the claims would not be

taught or suggested as required. Therefore, claims 1 and 6, and dependent claims 2-5 and 7, are

patentable over the prior art of record.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a

condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the

application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone

interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

¹ The presence of a driving-pulley (C) also indicates that Bugbee teaches a stationary tool that would be driven by a belt connected to an external source of power.

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If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 33208.

Respectfully submitted,

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